



16711
2 May 1997

From: Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District
To: Distribution


Subj: SHORE CONNECTION; EQUIVALENCY FOR CERTAIN UNINSPECTED
VESSELS

Ref: (a) PHONCON between Hal Cohoon (G-MOC-2) and
LTJG Stocklin (D8-moc) of 18 Apr 97

1. Enclosure (1) authorizes certain uninspected vessels to use industry standard quick disconnect couplings (QDCs) in place of the couplings required by MARPOL conventions. Please distribute enclosure (1) to the appropriate inspection personnel for implementation.

2. As discussed in reference (a), enclosure (1) is intended to avoid the installation of a shore connection that would, for all practical purposes, not be used. No specific type of QDC is specified, and the OCMI is given discretion to determine which QDCs are available that will perform satisfactorily. This policy change will be incorporated into future CFR changes.

3. Questions regarding this matter may be directed to LTJG Stocklin at the above number.


J. W. CALHOON
By direction

Encl: (1) G-MOC-2 policy ltr 16711 No. 2-97 dtd 19 Feb 97.

Dist: All Eighth District MSOs and MSU.

U.S. Department
of Transportation

United States
Coast Guard



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Policy Ltr No. 2-97

FEB 19 1997

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Subj: SHORE CONNECTION; EQUIVALENCY FOR CERTAIN VESSELS

Ref: (a) 33 CFR 155.410(a)(3)
(b) 33 CFR 155.420(a)(3)
(c) 33 CFR 155.430
(d) 33 CFR 155.120

1. Feedback received by boarding officers in our voluntary dockside examination initiatives suggests that the international type shore connector required by references (a) and (b) may not be appropriate for all vessels. Instead of the MARPOL convention derived metric shore connection described in reference (c), many uninspected vessels are equipped with a 1.5 inch quick connect fitting. This fitting has been described as an "industry standard" for these vessels. Although they are not in technical compliance with the standard, they meet the intent of the rule by having a connector which is compatible with discharge facilities in their area of operation.

2. Accordingly, under the authority of reference (d), a 1.5 inch quick connect fitting is accepted as equivalent to the shore connector required by references (a) and (b) subject to the following:

a. This equivalency is limited to those vessels operating exclusively in U.S. domestic service.

b. The vessel's oil transfer procedures, if required, reflect the use of an equivalent connector.

3. This equivalence does not apply to vessels in international service nor to oceangoing vessels of 400 or more gross tons.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "J. E. Schinnerer".
J. E. SCHRINNER
By direction

Distribution: All Districts (m)
Marine Safety Center
Marine Safety School